Application No.: 10/572,895 Filing Date: March 20, 2006

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An oral composition for alveolar bone resorption inhibition and periodontal membrane loss inhibition, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub>:

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from wholegrain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

2. (Currently Amended) An agent for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub>;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from wholegrain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

3. (Currently Amended) An agent for preventing or treating alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub>;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from wholegrain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

- 4. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.
- 5. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.
  - 6. (Canceled)
- 7. **(Withdrawn)** A method for inhibiting alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a composition according to Claim 1.

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8. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising orally administering a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub>.

- 9. **(Withdrawn)** A method for preventing or treating alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub>.
- 10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D<sub>3</sub> are administered to persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.
- 11. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 9, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is administered in an amount of 10 mg to 40 mg per day; and calcium is administered in an amount of 500 mg to 2000 mg per day.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A composition or agent according to claim 3, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.
- 13. (Previously Presented) A composition or agent according to claim 3, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.
- 14. **(Withdrawn)** A method for inhibiting alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a composition according to claim 6.
- 15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin  $D_3$  are administered to persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.
- 16. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 10, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is administered in an amount of 10 mg to 40 mg per day; and calcium is administered in an amount of 500 mg to 2000 mg per day.